[*English*]

Airstrips at Minicoy and Androth Islands of Lakshadweep

151. SHRI P. M. SAYEED : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have approved the construction of airstrips at Minicoy and Androth Islands of Lakshadweep ;

(b) if so, the progress made in this regard and if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether there is any delay in implementation and if so, the reasons therefor ; and

(d) the time by which the aforementioned air-strips are likely to be completed and brought under operation ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAV RAO SCINDIA) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) The feasibility study undertaken by the National Airports Authority in April, 1989 reveals that construction of airports at Androth and Minicoy Islands for Dornier-228 and Avro-748 aircraft operations is possible at an estimated cost of Rs. 8.20 crores and Rs. 11 crores respectively. In view of acute financial constraints, the National Airports Authority has no plans to take up the projects in the near future.

(c) and (d) Do not arise.

Delay in Release of LPG Connections by I. O. C.

152. SHRI RAJNATH SONKAR SHASTRI : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Indian Oil Corporation has been taking long time in releasing the gas connections and of issuing duplicate letters in the event of the original having not been received by the concerned individuals ; and

(b) if so, the details of steps taken to improve the functioning of the IOC in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND) : (a) and (b) While individual cases of delay can be looked into there is no such general complaint.

Airstrip at Ranakpur, Rajasthan

[*Translation*]

153. SHRI GUMAN MAL LODHA : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether Ranakpur temple in Rajasthan is famous for its sculpture in the World ;

(b) if so, whether the Government propose to provide air service including Vayudoot there by constructing any airstrip in order to provide facilities to the tourists ;

(c) if so, the place where the airstrip is to be constructed for airlines operation ; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAV RAO SCINDIA) : (a) to (d) The traffic potential, commercial viability of the operations, availability of resources and their deployment, fleet availability and plan of operation of scheduled air lines, and other such